

Minutes of the **CEMETERY COMMITTEE**  
held at **Godlingston Cemetery** on  
**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2003** at **9.30 a.m.**

Present: - Councillor Mrs J D Wheeldon - Chairman  
Councillor Mrs C Bartlett  
Councillor Mrs J Farrow  
Councillor Mrs C Gainsborough  
Councillor Mrs G Marsh

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for his inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillor J Roscoe.

2. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2001**

The Minutes of the Meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> July 2001 were noted as approved.

3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2001**

There were no matters arising from these Minutes.

4. **MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

1) **Wooden Crosses**

Councillor Gainsborough sought clarification on the policy of requesting the removal of wooden crosses. It was noted that some wooden crosses pre-date the change of policy. It was suggested that the existing wooden crosses be taken up and placed on graves. After discussion it was PROPOSED by Councillor Mrs Wheeldon and SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Marsh and AGREED: -

That wooden crosses be permitted where a proper headstone is also erected.

2) **Tree Management**

Concern was expressed at the loss and removal of trees and hedgerow. It was suggested that the provision of memorial trees be encouraged in order to fill the existing gaps. After discussion it was PROPOSED by Councillor Mrs Marsh SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Wheeldon and AGREED: -

That memorial willow trees be permitted, provided that any plaque be placed upon a removable post, for ease of maintenance and that the Operations Manager liaise with the Committee Chairman regarding all future significant maintenance issues.

3)

Entrance Gates

The condition of the gates were noted as being in need of replacement. It was noted that the Council had previously agreed to purchase wooden gates at a future date. It was PROPOSED by Councillor Gainsborough SECONDED by Councillor Wheeldon and AGREED: -

That the Operation Manager investigate and present to the Council, designs and prices of new wooden gates for inclusion in the 2003/4 Repairs and Renewals programme.

Given the condition of the gates, consideration was given to their removal. After a brief discussion: -

It was PROPOSED that the gates be removed. Upon being put to the Committee, Two Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition and Two Members voted AGAINST. The Chairman used her casting vote AGAINST the motion, whereupon the Proposition was declared NOT CARRIED.

4)

Flower Beds

It was noted that the smaller flowerbeds were in the process of being constructed. It was AGREED: -

That new flower beds be constructed in the lower section of the cemetery.

5)

Road Repairs

It was noted that the section of road in the lower area of the cemetery was in need of repair. It was AGREED: -

That the bottom corner section be resurfaced, at an estimated cost of £400, within existing budgets.

6)

Grave Allocation and Spacing

Members noted the problems associated with access and alignment. It was AGREED: -

That the allocation of 'A' graves be ceased until further notice and that the 'B' graves be allocated and spaced so as to allow for stabilisation and settlement.

7)

War Graves

Members noted the addition of new headstones relating to war graves and were informed that a new maintenance agreement had been arranged with the War Graves Commission.

8)

Wooden Crosses

During the site visit, further consideration was given to the

recommendation in Minute 4. 1) above. It was PROPOSED:-

That the size of any existing wooden cross should not exceed the dimension of the headstone. Upon being put to the Committee, Three Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition and One Member ABSTAINED whereupon the motion was declared CARRIED.

The Meeting concluded at 11.50 a.m.